

January 1995



English 30
Part A: Written Response
Grade 12 Diploma Examination

Alberta
EDUCATION

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January 1995

English 30 Part A: Written Response

Grade 12 Diploma Examination

Description

Part A: Written Response contributes 50% of the total English 30 Diploma Examination mark and consists of **two** assignments:

- **Minor Assignment:**
Reader's Response to Literature

Suggested time
approximately 1/2 hour

Value
30% of the Part A mark

... Page 2

- **Major Assignment:**
Literature Composition

Suggested time
approximately 1 1/2 to 2 hours

Value
70% of the Part A mark

... Page 10

Time: 2 1/2 hours. You may take an additional 1/2 hour to complete the examination.

Instructions

- Read the **whole** examination before you begin to write.
- Follow instructions carefully.
- Complete **both** assignments.
- Space is provided in this booklet for planning and drafting and for your revised work. Please write your revised work in blue or black ink.
- You may use a non-electronic English language dictionary and a thesaurus, but you may not use any other reference materials.
- Budget your time carefully; the suggested time for each part is a guideline for you.
- Do not write your name anywhere in this booklet.

Instructions

1. Read the poem "Heritage of Sadness" carefully and thoughtfully before you start the writing assignments.
2. Read **both** the Minor and Major assignments before you start writing.

HERITAGE OF SADNESS

Sad and confused among the fallen stars
pale, silent, nowhere and afraid, a vast phantom
here is this land alone with itself and winds and rocks
a land forever lost to the sun of its birth
a beautiful body drowned in mindless sleep
like water lost in a barren thirst of gravel

I see it bridled by chances and tomorrows
showing its face in the dreams of anguished men
whenever it burns, in wastes and undergrowth of bracken
whenever it burns, in poplars old in years and neglect,
the wasted chlorophyll of its abortive love
or whenever the will to be sleeps in the sail of its heart

bowed down, it awaits it knows not what redemption
among these landscapes walking through its stillness
among these rags of silence with eyes of the dying
and always this ruined smile of a poor degraded future
always the slashing of paddles in the dark
and horizons fading in a drift of promises

despoiled, its only hope is a vacant lot's
cold of cane talking with cold of bone
unease of the rust, the quick, the nerves, the nude
and on its livid back the blows of heated knives
it looks at you, worked out, from the depths of its quarries
and out of the tunnels of its abstraction where one day
it surrendered and lost forever the memory of man

Continued

winds that shuffle the lots of precedence by night
winds of concurrence, winds with solar eyes
telluric¹ winds, winds of the soul, universal winds
come couple, o winds, and with your river arms
embrace this face of a ruined people, give it the warmth
and the abundant light that rings the wake of swallows

Gaston Miron

Canadian poet

Translated by Fred W. Cogswell

¹telluric—of the earth

MINOR ASSIGNMENT: Reader's Response to Literature
(Suggested time: approximately 1/2 hour)

Through his description of a landscape and its people, Gaston Miron in his poem "Heritage of Sadness" suggests the effect of adversity on the human spirit.

What does the poem "Heritage of Sadness" convey to you about the effects of adversity on the human spirit? Support your ideas and impressions with reference to specific details from the poem.

MINOR ASSIGNMENT: Reader's Response to Literature

PLANNING AND DRAFTING

There is additional space for Planning and Drafting on pages 6 and 8.

REVISED WORK

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There is no handwriting or other markings on the paper.

MINOR ASSIGNMENT: Reader's Response to Literature

PLANNING AND DRAFTING

There is additional space for Planning and Drafting on page 8.

REVISED WORK

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There is no text or other markings on the paper.

There is additional space for Revised Work on page 9.

MINOR ASSIGNMENT: Reader's Response to Literature

PLANNING AND DRAFTING

MINOR ASSIGNMENT: Reader's Response to Literature

REVISED WORK

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

MAJOR ASSIGNMENT: Literature Composition
(Suggested time: approximately 1 1/2 to 2 hours)

Much of literature explores the effect of adversity on the human spirit. The course of individual lives is determined largely by the degree to which their hopes and purposes prevail against adverse conditions, circumstances, or events.

Write an essay based on literature that you have studied in which the author examines the effect of adversity on the human spirit. **What idea(s) does the author develop regarding the effect of adversity on the human spirit?** Develop your essay by providing specific supporting details from the literature that you have chosen.

Guidelines for Writing

- **Choose** your selection from relevant short stories, novels, plays, poems, other literature, or films that you have studied in your high school English classes. You must discuss literature **other than** the poem provided in this examination booklet.
- **Focus** your essay on your controlling idea regarding adversity and the human spirit. Markers will be looking for evidence that you are responding to the requirements of the assignment as you develop and support your controlling idea.
- **Organize** your composition so that your ideas are clearly and coherently developed.

MAJOR ASSIGNMENT: Literature Composition

INITIAL PLANNING

Space is provided here for your initial planning. No marks are awarded for work done on this page.

Author and title
of literature that
you have chosen

Your controlling idea
or thesis statement

There is additional space for Planning and Drafting on even-numbered pages.

MAJOR ASSIGNMENT: Literature Composition

PLANNING AND DRAFTING

MAJOR ASSIGNMENT: Literature Composition

REVISED WORK

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There is no text or other markings on the paper.

There is additional space for Revised Work on odd-numbered pages.

MAJOR ASSIGNMENT: Literature Composition

PLANNING AND DRAFTING

MAJOR ASSIGNMENT: Literature Composition

REVISED WORK

[illegible]

MAJOR ASSIGNMENT: Literature Composition

PLANNING AND DRAFTING

MAJOR ASSIGNMENT: Literature Composition

REVISED WORK

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There is no handwriting or other markings on the paper.

MAJOR ASSIGNMENT: Literature Composition

PLANNING AND DRAFTING

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There is no text or other markings on the paper.

MAJOR ASSIGNMENT: Literature Composition

PLANNING AND DRAFTING

MAJOR ASSIGNMENT: Literature Composition

REVISED WORK

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There is no text or other markings on the paper.

MAJOR ASSIGNMENT: Literature Composition

PLANNING AND DRAFTING

MAJOR ASSIGNMENT: Literature Composition

REVISED WORK

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MAJOR ASSIGNMENT: Literature Composition

PLANNING AND DRAFTING

MAJOR ASSIGNMENT: Literature Composition

REVISED WORK

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MAJOR ASSIGNMENT: Literature Composition

PLANNING AND DRAFTING

MAJOR ASSIGNMENT: Literature Composition

REVISED WORK

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MAJOR ASSIGNMENT: Literature Composition

PLANNING AND DRAFTING

[illegible]

MAJOR ASSIGNMENT: Literature Composition

PLANNING AND DRAFTING

MAJOR ASSIGNMENT: Literature Composition

REVISED WORK

Blank lined paper.

Credits

Gaston Miron. "Heritage of Sadness" from *La vie agonique* (Editions de l'Hexagone.)
Reprinted by permission of Editions de l'Hexagone.)

Do Not Write

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Apply Label With Student's Name

English 30: Part A

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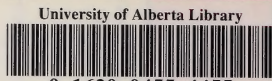
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English 30: Part A

